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or control the industrial or commercial business of the country, no legal questions are of more live interest than those relating to "Trusts."

The importance of, and interest taken in, the same is evidenced by the constant efforts of Congress and the various State Legislatures to control the subject by laws which will be successful in both accomplishing the object of the legislative body and at the same time meeting with the approbation of the courts.

Surely no questions before the courts are of more interest from a practical standpoint than those relating to conspiracies in restraint of trade, trades unions and labor organizations, industrial trusts, combinations of railway companies and anti-trust legislation. Mr. Beach has given us a work on these subjects which treats them in a clear, intelligent and judicial manner, with numerous citations on all subjects involved, together with a comprehensive review of all statutory enactments on trusts by Congress and the Legislatures of thirty-one states. The cases cited are the very latest decisions in their respective jurisdictions and the book is thoroughly up to date. It cannot fail to become a hand-book upon the subjects of which it treats.

*H. W. M.*

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A MANUAL OF COMMERCIAL LAW. By EDWARD W. SPENCER, of the Milwaukee Bar. Indianapolis and Kansas City: The Bowen-Merrill Company. 1898.

In his preface the author declares it his purpose to state in a clear and simple way such elementary rules and principles as are most important to business men and to present a book for general readers and for schools and colleges where business branches are taught.

The mechanical part of the book is excellent and the headings of the sections into which it is divided are in heavy black type and easily indicate the matter under discussion. There are about 550 pages and a full index. It is handy and well printed. No cases are cited, but at the end of some of the chapters reference is made to text books including the topics embraced in the chapters. It is scarcely practicable in a brief review where so many matters are treated, to mention any in much detail.

The author commences by defining law and legal rights, and then takes up contracts, stating the doctrines of consideration and the rules of offer and acceptance and other principles applicable to contracts generally. This portion of the work is needful to students, but may well need the aid of a teacher. The chapters on negotiable instruments, agency, partnership, sales of personal property, carriers and shipping are admirable and contain much information valuable to business men. Perhaps this may be said of the chapters on insurance and landlord and tenant. But the business man could scarcely rely upon a correct understanding of the nice questions of real property which must contain many technical words explained,

but not to be remembered, or the laws relating to corporations which, being almost purely statutory, vary so greatly in the different jurisdictions.

Appreciating the number of subjects to be covered the author has devoted himself to those questions which are most practical and necessary to his readers and what is stated is accurately stated. It is a full and faithful enumeration of the general principles.

The style is generally clear and simple. This is no indication that it has not cost the author much time and hard work. A book which is most easily understood and free from technical phrases may no less have required the most time and severest thought.

On the whole he has displayed considerable ability, and the work readily recommends itself to those for whom it was intended.

*H. H. B.*

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THE UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE LAWS, ANNOTATED. By MARK ASH and WILLIAM ASH. New York: Baker, Voorhis & Co. 1898.

The authors have aimed to comprehend in this volume all the Federal Statute law now in force concerning internal revenue, supplemented with references to State and Federal adjudications, regulations of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and rulings of the bureaus of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney-General. Containing as it does the fullest annotation of the War Revenue Law of 1898 we have yet seen, the compilation will prove of value not only to the legal profession, but to Federal officials and business men as well. Especial attention has been paid to gathering together official expressions of executive officers acting under the Statutes, and in view of the importance of these in discovering exemptions from taxes, and in determining possible liability for penalties or forfeitures, this should prove not the least useful portion of the book.

As throwing light on the meaning of the Law of '98, all the cases arising under former war revenue acts have been collected, together with the conflicting authorities on the validity of unstamped instruments, and their admissibility in evidence according to the forum where the question arose. The references to the regulations and rulings of the Internal Revenue Department since June 13th last also seem very complete.

Cross references from section to section and a full index add to the usefulness of the book.

*C. H. H.*

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RULES, FORMS AND GENERAL ORDERS IN BANKRUPTCY. By WM. MILLER COLLIER. Albany: Matthew Bender. 1899.

This work, as the author explains in his preface, is intended as supplementary to his recently published book on Bankruptcy and